

## Education

The Norfolk Public Schools (NPS) System serves about 34,089 students, an additional 10,000 citizens in comprehensive adult and evening class programs, and over 2,000 children in pre-kindergarten programs. Norfolk is widely recognized in a number of areas as being among the leading urban school systems in the country. Norfolk Public Schools is widely recognized in a number of areas as being among the leading urban school systems in the country. Instruction spending accounts for over 77 percent of the operating budget and a tough new accountability system has been developed that has garnered national attention. NPS has made significant gains in its SOL passing rates during the past three years, having been cited by the Department of Education as the most improved district in the State. In 1999, less than four percent of Norfolk schools were fully accredited. By 2000, 40 percent met standards or were fully accredited. Individual schools have received awards nationally and statewide. Roberts Park and Young Park elementary schools were the only two schools from Virginia to receive recognition in the national Distinguished Title 1 Schools program. Granby High School was named as one of the top 100 Wired Schools in the United States by Family PC Magazine - the only school in Virginia to be named.

In order to serve the needs of a very diverse student population, the school system operates 35 elementary schools, 8 middle schools, 5 senior high schools, the Norfolk Technical Vocational Center, and 7 other educational facilities.

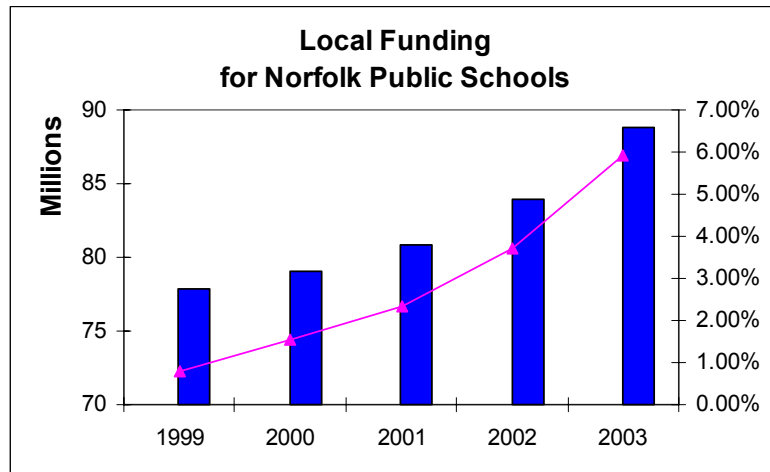
The extensive nature of the offerings of Norfolk Public Schools is testimony to the school system's desire to serve the needs of all the children in the City. This includes gifted and talented education, special education, and alternative programs for troubled students, and magnet programs such as the one operated in conjunction with the Medical College of Hampton Roads. Additionally, programs for students are run in cooperation with institutions such as the Chrysler Museum, the Virginia Opera Association, and the Governor's Magnet School for the Performing Arts among others.

The seven-member School Board appointed by members of City Council establishes policy for Norfolk Public Schools designed to meet local needs. Administering the policies established by the School Board and putting in place regulations to implement those policies are the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools and his staff.

Revenue Categories	
Education School Fees	2,553,412
Sales and Use Tax Return	27,195,200
State School Funds	129,740,300
Federal Funds	5,920,625
City Funds	88,853,663
<b>Total</b>	<b>254,263,200</b>

## FY2003 Budget Overview

The Norfolk Public Schools will receive \$88,853,663 from the City of Norfolk in FY2003, an increase of \$4,971,119 over the FY2002 contribution. This is an unprecedented percentage increase (5.9%) in local funds. The City is only able to achieve this significant increase as a result of applying considerable one-time, non-recurring resources to fund the education requests.



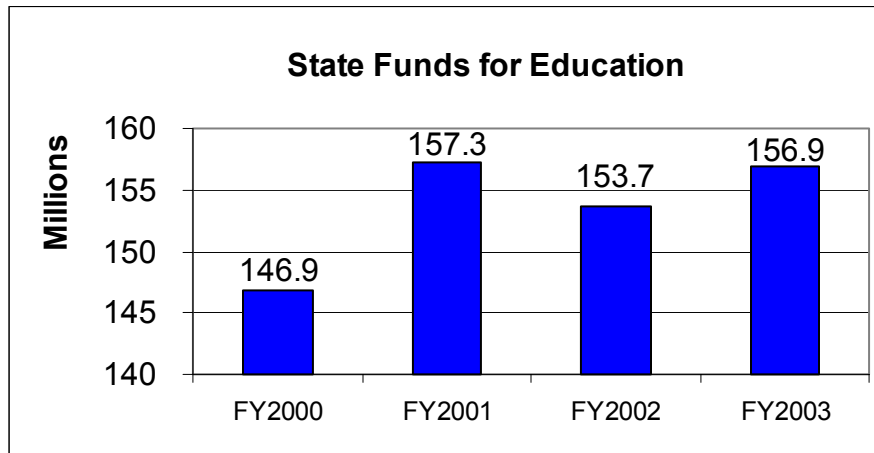
Typically, the City shares a comparable amount of ongoing increases in local revenue growth with NPS, which in FY03 the increase in local contribution would be about 3.7 percent. However, the City proposes this larger increase using a combination of ongoing and one-time revenue for the following specific reasons:

- It is critically important, particularly in tough times; to emphasize the City's priorities and education is a priority.
- The City has the fortune of one-time funds largely from cumulative savings in the past two years that if applied strategically by the schools will serve to bolster the quality of education available to our children.

Except for special targeted program funding, state aid towards basic education has continued to decline over the past three years. In FY01, the State budgeted \$157,265,800 for Norfolk Public Schools. In FY02, funding was reduced to an estimated \$153,640,444, representing a decrease of \$3.6 million. In FY03, State funding has increased slightly to \$156,935,500, which still remains lower than the amount budgeted in FY01. This is the result of two factors: a projected State budget shortfall of \$3.8 billion and a projected reduction in the number of students enrolled in Norfolk by about 319. Of the many programs the City has been asked to backfill due to the shortfall in the State's budget, the City believes that the need to support education is the greatest.

It is important that our communications with the School Board remain clear. Whenever possible, we will stretch to support education. Similarly, the City believes that it is appropriate to expect the NPS to submit next year's (FY04) budget request understanding that the FY03 increase was made possible from one-time revenues and future requests will not assume the proposed funding to be base-level funding. Rather, some \$1.5 million to \$2 million of the local share proposed for FY03 of \$88.9 million should be assumed by the State or some other programming source going forward.

The schools should also be able to benefit from an increase of \$1.9 million in federal impact aid. NPS has identified the purchase of replacement/additional textbooks as the greatest need for this increase.



In addition to the increase in local operating funds, the City of Norfolk has included \$12.2 million in the Capital Improvement Budget that represents the second year of a five-year, \$35.3 million capital commitment to the renovation or reconstruction of Norfolk Public Schools. Norfolk Public Schools will use the funds to construct a new Norview High School.

Also, the City is providing an additional \$4 million in the Capital Improvement Program budget for the neighborhood middle school initiatives. These funds will be used for:

- Technology enhancements in the middle schools
- Strategically located resource centers
- Study of Southside school needs
- Set aside for implementation of the aforementioned study

<b>Expenditure Summary</b>					
	<b>FY00 Actual</b>	<b>FY01 Budget</b>	<b>FY02 Budget</b>	<b>FY03 Budget</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>
All Purpose Appropriation	146,737,024	245,137,844	245,752,912	254,263,200	8,510,288